by Bill Wallace

Recent reports on the congressional probe of Research West, Emeryville's shadowy right-wing detective agency, have once more focused public attention on the growth of a national network of anti-left

In recent months the Barb has looked this network. The fruits of that investi-gation follow.

esearch West -- the Emeryville detective agency which jobs' against the United Farm-workers Union, spied on Synanon for a San Francisco Examiner reporter and vists for Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) -- is on a collision course with Congress, and may soon be cited for

contempt.

The possible citation stems from legislation launched late last year by U.S. Representative John Moss (Dem., Sacramento). Moss' House Investigations Subcommittee is probing private spy-for-hire groups which PG&E and other power panies have been using to collect inrecords which Research West reportedly 1976 Nuclear Safeguards Initiative

So far Patricia Atthowe, Research West's President, has balked at turning over her files, and Moss has given her until March 17 to relent or risk facing a con-Research West's current congressional woes are only the most recent events in

its long history of controversial activities The company first came to light as the result of a libel suit filed against the San

Francisco Examiner by Synanon, the well-known self help program for former alcoholics and drug addicts. Synanon's own and found that some of the decognitory information printed in a series of Examiner
"exposes" about Synanon had been turned

Federally-Protected

Spies On A **Collision Course** With Congress

over to Examiner reporter Ed Montgome-ry by Robert Lamborn, an operative for Research West and sometime stringer for

the Berkeley Gazette.

Although the Synanon caper was the first incident to land Research West's name in the media, it wasn't the first time



the company had conducted "research" on a controversial subject. Synanon's investigators learned that the company was founded in the late Forties chiefly to spy on labor radicals trying to organize California's lettuce pickers. Under its original name, Western Research Foundation, Research West functioned as Foundation, Research West functioned as an adjunct to the powerful Associated Farmers, an organization of agriculture groups with a vested interest in prevent-ing the unionization of farm labor. Research West again brushed up against

agricultural unionization in the Sixties when a group of corporate farmers in the Central Valley commissioned the firm to collect intelligence on the United Farm-workers (UFW). The point of the probe: to ascertain whether Communists had in-filtrated the farm labor movement.

In 1967, the company received a pile of documents which later proved to be the committed in the Bay Area by ex-Santa Clara County Sheriff's Officer Jerome Ducote. Some of the information -- includnts on the UFW, the anti-war movement, Ramparts magazine and other leftists groups and individuals -- also found its way into the files of the FBI, the Army private research groups and tate local and federal law enforce The fact that Research West had an-

parently trafficked in stolen materials didn't surface until 1975, when Ducote gave himself up and outlined his "black bag activities" on behalf of wealthy right-

A heavy right-wing hias has charac terized Research West since its earliest days. The company's founder, Harper Knowles, a former army colonel who worked as a red-hunter for the Port of San Francisco, first made his mark as a subversives expert and investigator by trying to hang a Communist smear on Longshoreman's Union leader Harry Bridges prior to World War Two.

Among Knowles' earliest Western Re-search clients were PG&E and Pacific Telephone, both of which used the company's red-hunting files to ferret ou suspected leftists on their payrolls. (The Barb revealed late last year that PG&E still uses Research West to conduct background investigations on its employees.

Nor have the passing years and a change in management altered the company's right-wing political perspective. Patricia Atthowe, the firm's current head (Knowles sold the company in the Sixties), first surfaced during the Free Speech Movement at UC Berkeley, railing against the alleged subversives behind the college rebellion. Atthowe filed a well-publicized suit against the university aimed at force ing HC to throw open its liets of student like herself.

Little is known about Research West's collection methods. In fact part of the reason for the current congressional in-vestigation is to learn whether unlawful espionage has been used by the firm in going after anti-nuclear activists. Pol tical burglar Jerome Ducote claims that the company helped pay for his bag jobs on Bay Area radicals, but Atthowe herself stoutly denies that the company has used burglary or any other unlawful in-telligence-collecting methods. Synanon's investigators learned during the Examiner libel suit that Research West shares information on a regular basis with state, local and federal agencies, and has even given Army intelligence agents access to

Kirk Smith, an investigator for Moss' Oversight and Investigations Subcom-mittee, declined to discuss the specifics of the PG&E/Research West probe, but he did tell the Barb that the committee is empowered to investigate "abuses of telephonic communications" (wiretaps, etc.) and "the general issue of energy itself. For example, whether rate-pavers' dol

lars are being misused."

Other Bay Area newspapers have re ported that the probe focuses on the 1976 California Nuclear Safeguards Initiative, a charge which Smith would neither con-

Danger From The Right

SPIES, SPIES AND MORE

Despite three years of almost non-stan addition self-proclaimed political burgles David Bronson (pictured) is no closer to forcing an oficial investigation of his own right-wing spying against radicals than he was when he first surfa-

Brosson revealed that he had performed resisted "black bag" jobs against Bay Area peace activists and other leftists in a letter to the Ban in 1974. Since then he has repeated his allegations dozens of times in press interviews, public talements and open meetings (see for example,

new school (1978, 1847b).
More importantly, he has provided documention which links the San Francisco Police De-partment, the EBI and the U.S. Army Intelligent agency to this activities.

S. P. Datricel Alternate Police Police has a field of non-order to the case. Broand has politioned Sci. P. Police Chief Charles Gain and California Gombor Jerry Brown asking for a probe of the case as well, but so for mether has show onlyting along it.

Dirty Tricks In Your Own Home

"Democratic" postcard mailing during Nixon's 1962 California gubernatorial campaign to Donald Segretti's more grandiose schemes to disrupt the Dem-ocratic effort in 1972; California's right-wing has repeatedly turned to one age-old device to forward its cause -the political dirty trick. Now the Barb has learned that, in its battle to defeat the Panama Canal treaties, the rightwing may have once again reverted to its old deceptive ways.

Consider the case of San Francisco's

From Bob Haldeman's fraudulent

Hans Munk. Last October, Munk opened his mail box and discovered a postcard with his name signed to it urging the U.S. Senate to "vote against President Carter's treaty to give away our Panama Canal." The card had been returned to Munk by the post office as undeliverable (it was addressed to U.S. Senator John Tunney who had left the

Senate nine months previously).

The problem: Munk claims he never sent the card and that the signature of his name is a forgery. The card is evidently a mass-produced form letter designed for mailing to U.S. senators to express public opposition to the Panama Canal treaties

To find out if other forged cards had been mailed out, Munk wrote to the U.S. Postal authorities, former U.S. Senator Tunney, current Senator Hayakawa, and former Governor Ronald Reagan complaining about the fraudu-lent use of his name on the card. The postal authorities promptly informed

Munk that there was nothing they could do about his problem, and of the others only Ronald Reagan bothered to respond with the "hope that this use of forgery does not become a general thing." Munk also received an unsolicited

response from Senator Alan Cranston been brought to the attention of the U.S. chief postal inspector for review Rvan Conrov from Senator Cran-

ston's Washington office told the cards similar to the one Munk re-ceived, but there has been evidence of some funny business related to cordence on the Canal treaties

'We routinely write people who con tact our office about legislation, thank-ing them for sharing their views with us," Conroy said. "Some of the ones we've written back about the Cana issue sent replies to us saving they had never written in the first place."

Despite the possibility of massive fraud, Conroy said that no official investigation was currently being con-

ducted "as far as I know." There was some talk about the possibility of a campaign to defraud the Congress in the early stages of dis-cussing the Canal treaties, but nothing was ever done about it.

"It's just impossible to prove fraud in this kind of thing -- the volume of mail we've been getting in the Senate on this subject is much too vast to allow a thorough investigation."
--Paul Grabowicz

Police Surveillance Is Our Most **Important Product**

ly collect intelligence on left-wing groups and individuals, Anacapa Sciences Incorporated, a Santa Barbara consulting firm, teaches police officers and private corporations how to set up their own intelligence units.

Anacapa Sciences was founded in 1969, "primarily," according to its articles of incorporation, 'to engage in the specific business of furnishing scientific consuling services. . (and) the rendering of re-search, development, analysis, and con-sulting services in the behavioral, physical and engineering sciences to indi-viduals, organizations and government." Since that time it has carried out literally dozens of contracts, many -- if not most - of them firmly based on police intel-

ligence tasks.

The company has focused much of its activity on training cops -- and some se-curity officers for private firms -- how to collect and analyze information on alleged "terrorists" and leftists. The company has trained criminal intelligence officers for the U.S. Drug Enforce ment Administration (DEA), the Califor nia State Department of Justice, the Dade Safety, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police

and the Texas State Police.

In addition to its training programs. Anacapa Sciences has developed compu-terized intelligence techniques for the California Department of Justice, set up the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Re-gional "Organized Crime Unit" which infiltrated the anti-nuclear Abalone Al-liance last year (see Barb, Feb. 24) and helped UC Santa Barbara's police de-

partment work on a murder case.

According to Anacapa's own propaganda, ''Most of these courses included a curriculum component outlining the indicators of civil unrest and dissidence, and the development and conduct of a prac-tical exercise providing the attendees with an opportunity to practice analysis and prediction of terrorist activities." In plain English: a unit on how to snot political troublemakers and keep track of their

Douglas Harris the president of the company, denies that its staff was select-ed because of their political attitudes or expertise in intelligence operations. 'Our people have diverse backgrounds in one type of science or another," he says.
"Psychology, engineering and so forth."
But in fact, it appears the primary sci-

nce they specialize in is police science.
For example, Walter Harper, one of the Special Operations Research Office, con ducting counterinsurgency research. Some of Harper's work was used to develop computer predicting techniques based on the insurgencies in South Vietnam, the Philippines and Malaya. Harper's work with Southeast Asian

counterinsurgents prepared him for his next big assignment; conducting a study of "stratified data at the state university, state college, community college and private college levels pertaining to their experience in campus disorders for the California Council of Criminal Justice, the forerunner to the Governor's Office of Criminal Justice Planning clude James B. Howlett, a former intel-

uments stolen by right-wing political bur-glar Jerome Ducote. Moreover, some of

the information used in Viguerie's pro-

paganda mailings has come from the ultra-militarist American Security Coun-

ligence officer with the Lakewood Colo-rado Department of Public Safety who specialized in undercover operations, de-veloping and using informants, using technical surveillance equipment and "collecting intelligence data on militant and subversive organizations;" and Jack Kinney, who put together the Drug Enforce-ment Administration's criminal intelligence course, plotted drug control opera-tions for the Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs (now DEA) and did a cost-effectiveness survey of "a national police force in South America."

With credentials like these it's little wonder that Anacapa's intelligence train-ing programs tend to stress such concepts as "countermeasures which have proven effective in various situations," 'alternatives to criminal prosecution. "exploiting weaknesses in guerrilla or-ganizations" and "exploitation of legal police methods" (as opposed to illegal

One 'training module" developed by Anacapa Science even discusses means of 'dealing with groups operating under the cover of a legitimate front or dis-guising their operations in the contex of a legal activity (such as) a licensed

For an example of how this gung-ho anti-leftist philosophy works in the field, the intelligence unit Anacapa Sciences set up for the Santa Barbara County by launching investigations of a Grateful Dead Concert, the UC Santa Barbara Jazz Festival and a local election called to decide whether or not a part of Santa

A Spy's Sugar Daddy

Il the intelligence on radicals which the New Right can collect is useless without the funds and organization to put it into action. This is where the murky money empire of Richard A. Viguerie comes in-

Viguerie is the public relations and fund-raising wizard behind much of the tund-raising wizard behind much of the activity, associated with the New Right in recent years. Through a plethora of business fronts, including Richard A. Viguerie Co. Inc., Diversified Mail Mar-keting Inc., Prospect House, American Mailing List Co., and the Viguerie Publishing Co., Viguerie has helped bank-roll some of the most successful campaigns the right has launched in recent years. His beneficiaries have included Anita Bryant's Save Our Children cru-sade, the Stop ERA "movement," and the Conservative Caucus, a right-wing educa-

tion foundation.

Most of the information available on Viguerie's right-wing fund-raising efforts stems from an intensive investigation of New Right activities by Sasha Gregory-Lewis, senior editor of the Advocate, a national gay newsweekly.

In a series of muckraking articles the Advocate began publishing last June,

Gergory-Lewis has:

**Exposed the links between Viguerie's fund-raising efforts and a wide spectrum of ultra-right-wing lobbies, caucuses, committees and foundations.

**Traced the connections between Viguerie's front groups and some of the most powerful conservative office-holders in the land including U.S. Representa-tive Larry McDonald (Dem., Georgia). former California Lt. Governor John Harmer and California State Senator H.L. Richardson (Rep., Orange County).

**Uncovered the creation of an incipient political party, the National Organization of State Conservative Parties (NOSCP). masquerading as a political "lobby" and financed with Vigueric funds.

**Revealed a campaign by politicians linked to Viguerie to smear the National Lawyers Guild and prevent it from receiving money under the federally-fund-ed Legal Services Corporation. John Dirch Society's News in Deview

The purpose of all this activity The Viguerie political network is also solidly hooked into the intelligence network of the New Right. Representative summed up in a mailer sent out by NOSCP last year which claimed the or-ganization was founded to bring 'all those McDonald, one of what the Advocate re-fers to as "a stable of Viguerie adgood Americans that used to be for Joe McCarthy and Bob Taft, or Barry Goldis associated with John and water and George Wallace, not to na Sheila Rees' Information Digest, and has tional prominence, but to national domimade public use of some of ID's redbaiting reports. John Harmer, another Viguerie advisor, allegedly received doc-Viguerie himself is blunt about his role

as bag man and conservative king-maker and his plans for the future. In a recen interview with Women's Wear Daily he said, "If Ronald Reagan wants the nomination in 1980, he probably can have it. I would be very sympathetic to a Reagan request for help.



Undercover cops: Anacapa Sciences has specialized in training them how to spy on the left. (See story upper right.)

hile Research West is facing the prospect of a congres-sional attack, another key link in the national right-wing intelligence network is above attack -- nrebecause of its relationship to an individual congressmember Information Digest (ID), a privately-

Propaganda

house, operates under the protective wing of U.S. Representative Larry McDonald (Dem., Georgia), a John Birch Society member best known for his recent trial on malpractice charges after he prescribed

Lactrile to a man dying of cancer.

ID is published by John and Sheila Rees, a pair of right-wing activists who posed as radicals during the anti-war years, all the time collecting and publishing intelligence on the peace movement and leftist organizations in the pages of their restricted

The Reeses also used a variety of false identities and phoney political front or-ganizations in order to infiltrate left cirles in New York and Washington, D.C., during the Seventies.

Unlike other right-wing political organs, ID was not openly circulated. Partly for reasons of security and partly avoid lawsuits for slander, libel, de famation of character and invasion of privacy, the Reeses chose to disseminate their information through the intelligence grapevine of police agencies.

Police departments all over the country received ID, according to information developed in a 1976 report by the New York Assembly's Office of Legislative Over-sight. Those who didn't receive the publication directly gained access to the in-formation by means of regional intelligence bulletins containing excernts from

it, and informally by word of mouth Recently the Reeses have become bolder about their intelligence service. Sheila Rees now works as an aide to Representative McDonald, who has read portions of ID directly into the Congressional Rec-ord, thus rendering it a privileged communication under congressional rules, hence libel-proof.

Among the targets of ID are the National Lawyers' Guild, the Socialist Workers' Party and the Institute for Policy Studies, all three of which are currently suing the Peeses for defamation

But the Reeses have not limited themselves to police forces and the Congressional Record: they have also begun to spread their right-wing intelligence re-ports through the John Birch Society's Review of the News, the Wackenhut private detective agency and the massive intelligence files compiled by the Georgia

The Atlanta (Georgia) Journal earlier this year reported that John Rees was hired by Georgia Power to infiltrate the Clamshell Alliance, an East Coast coali-tion of anti-nuclear groups similar to California's Abalone Alliance, Georgia West to spy on anti-nuclear groups, according to recent reports, and there is a possibility that intelligence developed by Rees and the California detective agency was somehow shared with West Coast power companies such as PG&E, currently itself the target of a congressional investigation for spying on nuclear power

In 1976, CounterSpy magazine investigated the Reeses intelligence operation and termed it "just the tip of a rightist piling and information trading, blacklisting, subversion of civil liberties, inva-sion of privacy, plots against progressive leaders, illegal suppression of legi-timate dissent, infiltration of government agencies and crime of all proportions."

CounterSpy reported that Information Digest material was disseminated to both the FBI and the CIA, and suggested that CIA money may have been used to fund publication and the spying activities of the Rees family.

"All who have become involved with analyzing Information Digest," the Coun-terSpy report said, "believe it indicates that the right wing privately maintained files that rival those of the FBL